



Disabilities Awareness



Merit Badge Workbook

This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.

This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.

You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed, and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.

If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show", "tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found on Scouting.org.

The requirements were last issued or revised in 2021 • This workbook was updated in May 2022.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit: _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Phone No.: _____ Email: _____

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org

Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org

1. Do the following:

- a. Define and discuss with your counselor the following disabilities awareness terms: disability, accessibility, adaptation, accommodation, invisible disability, person-first language, and inclusion.

Disability

Accessibility

Adaptation

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Accommodation

Invisible disability

Person-first language

Inclusion

b. Explain why proper disability etiquette is important, and how it may differ depending on the specific disability.

Give three examples.

1.	
2.	
3.	

- 2. Visit an agency that works with people with physical, mental, emotional, or educational disabilities.
- Collect and read information about the agency's activities.
- Learn about opportunities its members have for training, employment, and education.

Discuss what you have learned with your counselor.

3. Do TWO of the following:

- a. Talk with a Scout who has a disability and learn about the Scout's experiences taking part in Scouting activities and earning different merit badges.

Discuss what you have learned with your counselor.

- b. Talk with an individual who has a disability and learn about this person's experiences and the activities in which this person likes to participate.

Discuss what you have learned with your counselor.

- c. Learn how people with disabilities take part in a particular adaptive sport or recreational activity. Discuss what you have learned with your counselor.

- d. Learn about independent living aids such as service animals, canes, and augmentative communication devices such as captioned telephones and videophones.

Discuss with your counselor how people use such aids.

6. Make a commitment to your merit badge counselor describing what you will do to show a positive attitude about people with disabilities and to encourage positive attitudes among others.

Discuss how your awareness has changed as a result of what you have learned.

7. Name five professions that provide services to people with disabilities.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Pick one that interests you and find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession.

Profession:	
Education:	
Training:	
Experience	

Discuss what you learn with your counselor, and tell why this profession interests you.

When working on merit badges, Scouts and Scouters should be aware of some vital information in the current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* (BSA publication 33088). Important excerpts from that publication can be downloaded from <http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf>.

You can download a complete copy of the *Guide to Advancement* from <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>.